

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A support system for a dock leveler having a ramp and a lip comprising:

a support leg apparatus attached to the ramp, said support leg apparatus comprising a support leg;

a camming surface biased to an upward position and movable to a deflected position when the ramp descends at least as fast as a predetermined rate and said support leg apparatus engages said camming surface, wherein said camming surface is configured to remain in the upward position when the ramp descends slower than a predetermined rate; and,

a lip holder coupled to said camming surface and configured to cause said camming surface to move to the deflected position when the ramp descends at any rate and when the lip engages said lip holder.

2. (original) The support system of claim 1, wherein the support leg apparatus further comprises a cam aligned to engage said camming surface.

3. (original) The support system of claim 2, wherein said cam is a roller cam.

4. (original) The support system of claim 1, further comprising a support structure configured to support the ramp when said support structure engages said support leg.

5. (original) The support system of claim 1, wherein said support leg is biased to a supporting position and further wherein said support leg is configured to move to a retracted

position when said support leg apparatus engages said camming surface, the ramp descends slower than the predetermined rate, and the lip does not engage said lip holder.

6. (original) The support system of claim 5, further comprising a leg guide.

7. (original) The support system of claim 1, wherein the support leg apparatus is configured to support the ramp at one of a dock level position and at least one below dock level position.

8-16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented) A support system for a dock leveler having a ramp and a lip comprising:

means for supporting the ramp attached to the ramp, said supporting means comprising a support leg;

means for camming biased to an upward position and movable to a deflected position when the ramp descends at least as fast as a predetermined rate and said supporting means engages said camming means, wherein said camming means is configured to remain in the upward position when the ramp descends slower than a predetermined rate; and,

means for holding the lip configured to cause said camming means to move to the deflected position when the ramp descends at any rate and when the lip engages said lip holding means.

18. (original) The support system of claim 17, wherein the supporting means further comprises an engaging means aligned to engage said camming means.

19. (original) The support system of claim 18, wherein said engaging means is a roller cam.

20. (original) The support system of claim 17, further comprising means for supporting the support leg configured to support the ramp when said support leg supporting means engages said support leg.

21. (original) The support system of claim 17, wherein said support leg is biased to a supporting position and further wherein said support leg is configured to move to a retracted position when said support leg apparatus engages said camming means, the ramp descends slower than the predetermined rate, and the lip does not engage said lip holding means.

22. (original) The support system of claim 21, further comprising means for guiding the support leg.

23. (original) The support system of claim 17, wherein the supporting means is configured to support the ramp at one of a dock level position and at least one below dock level position.

24-39. (canceled)